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SPAIN.

*Report from Barcelona.*BARCELONA, SPAIN, *February 20, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit the abstract of bills of health and to make the usual report for the week ended February 17, 1900: February 11, the Spanish steamship *Ciudad de Cadiz* was inspected; 28 cabin and 29 steerage passengers were inspected and passed; 20 pieces of baggage were inspected and labeled. February 14, the bark *Maria*, with general cargo, from Barcelona to Cienfuegos, was inspected. I have been informed that all restrictions against communication with Oporto have been removed, no plague having appeared for some weeks. The influenza, which up to a week ago was very prevalent here, has much decreased. The deaths per day have fallen from about 75 to 80 to 30 to 40 in the same period, which is about the usual number. I forwarded by same mail the monthly health report for the month of December, 1899.

Respectfully,

JOHN F. ANDERSON,
*Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*The SURGEON-GENERAL,
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.**Reports from Cadiz.*CADIZ, SPAIN, *February 16, 1900.*

SIR: There is inclosed herewith table giving mortality statistics of Cadiz from January 15 to 31, inclusive.

It is noticed that smallpox appears to be on the decline. Still, it must be borne in mind that only deaths, and not cases, of smallpox are reported in this city. Acute affections of the respiratory system, as is readily observed by reference to the table, claim the greater proportion of victims.

With reference to the cases of deaths reported as due to leprosy—3 in December and 1 in January—it would seem that the disease must exist somewhat extensively in order to produce the number of deaths stated within the time given. A careful and somewhat extensive inquiry has been made in this connection of a number of the representative professional men of the city, who, by reason of their extensive practice among all classes of people, are in position to speak advisedly on the subject. They positively state that the vast majority of cases reported as such are not leprosy but elephantiasis. However, leprosy is not entirely unknown in southern Spain, as at Seville, some 60 miles distant, a house known as the "lazarino" is set aside outside of the city limits for the use of those so afflicted.

From reports, it is judged there is but little restriction enforced on the inmates in the way of nonintercourse with the outside world beyond that they are required to sleep there and are not permitted to enter the city. Cadiz possesses no such accommodations for this class of unfortunates, and I am reliably informed that whenever a leper is discovered in the city, if he is in condition to be removed, he is ordered to betake himself to the country, where he usually takes up his residence with one like afflicted, or tiring of this mode of life he tramps away to some other city with the hopes of once more being permitted to mingle unmolested with his fellow-beings.

Trachoma is observed to exist extensively in southern Spain, alike in the cities and country, among the lower classes who live in the most unsanitary surroundings, and whose abject squalor at times is pitiful to behold.

Gonorrheal ophthalmia abounds rather plentifully in this city, and, I am informed, is the cause annually of many cases of blindness.

Syphilis is notoriously prevalent, and cases of the gravest forms are observed in the hospitals. Patients whose vital resistance is not high, due, perhaps, to an insufficient supply of food, appear, as it were, to melt away before the disease. * * *

Respectfully,

J. A. NYDEGGER,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

Mortality statistics of Cadiz, Spain, for the seventeen days ended January 31, 1900.

Infectious diseases—	
Diphtheria.....	3
Typhoid fever	2
Dysentery.....	1
Other infectious and contagious diseases.....	2
Diseases of the circulatory system.....	16
Diseases of the respiratory system.....	54
Diseases of the digestive apparatus.....	10
Diseases of the urinary apparatus.....	5
Locomotor diseases.....	16
Cerebro-spinal diseases.....	21
Cancer.....	3
Alcoholism.....	1
Leprosy.....	1
Plague.....	1
Total.....	136

CADIZ, SPAIN, February 19, 1900.

SIR: With reference to the case suspicious of bubonic plague, reported in my letter of the 12th instant as being held at Tuy on the northern Spanish-Portuguese frontier for investigation and further development, it is stated that it is a case of plague.

Tuy, it is understood, is the point through which land communication is permitted to be carried on between Oporto and Vigo, and a detention or quarantine camp is established there.

The case evidently came from Oporto where the disease must have been contracted, as it is hardly probable * * * for it to have been brought in through a Portuguese port from Brazil at this time, just at the end of a somewhat protracted epidemic.

Respectfully,

J. A. NYDEGGER,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.